

I CLAIM:

1. A filter pit for receiving water from a catchment area and for directing the water to a storage tank, the pit having at least one inlet adjacent an upper portion
5 of the pit, at least one outlet for water adjacent a floor of the pit, a primary filter within the pit and between the inlet and the outlet,. A secondary filter within the pit and located to receive water which passes through the primary filter, a tertiary filter within the
10 pit and located between the outlet and the secondary filter to receive water from the secondary filter whereby progressively smaller particles are filtered from the water and water may drain from the pit and the tertiary filter being supported spaced from the base of the pit is
15 able to dry out when the flow of water through the pit ceases.
2. The filter pit of claim 1 wherein the primary filter consists of a screen.
- 20 3. The filter pit of claim 2 wherein the screen has apertures of approximately 5.5mm in size.
4. The filter pit of claim 2 or 3 wherein the
25 primary filter rests upon and has a filtering zone spaced from the secondary filter.
5. The filter pit of claim 1 including a baffle extending part way across the pit.
- 30 6. The filter pit of claim 1 wherein the secondary filter has a screen with apertures of approximately 955 microns in size.
- 35 7. The filter pit of claim 5 including a carrier which supports the tertiary filter and the carrier is supported by the baffle.

8. The filter pit of claim 7 wherein the tertiary filter has apertures of approximately 5 micron in size.
9. The filter pit of claim 1 having a tapered
5 peripheral wall.
10. The filter pit of claim 9 wherein the peripheral wall is stepped.
- 10 11. The filter pit of claim 9 or 10 wherein the peripheral wall has a lip at an upper end and a lid is received by the lip.